

X.—On some small Mammals from Catamarca.

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THE British Museum has received a small collection of admirably prepared skins of mammals, mostly rodents, obtained at Chumbicha, Catamarca, by Sr. E. Budin, and a list of these seems desirable.

Chumbicha is about 60 kilometres due south-west of the town of Catamarca, and lies at an altitude of about 600 metres.

The collection consists of eighty-nine specimens, belonging to nine species, of which one has already been, and two are now, described as new.

1. *Eligmodontia marica*, Thos.

Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. (9) ii. p. 483 (1918).

♂. 299, 311; ♀. 296, 312. Eastern, desert, side of Chumbicha.

Notes about this beautiful little species have already been published (*l. c.*). Its type is no. 311. B.M. no. 18.11.11.1.

It is readily distinguishable by its small size and snowy-white belly.

The four specimens were all caught in one place in the desert area to the east of Chumbicha, and none were seen elsewhere.

2. *Hesperomys murillus cordovensis*, Thos.

♂. 231, 251, 292, 298, 300, 302, 306, 307, 313; ♀. 297, 301, 303, 304, 305, 308, 309, 310.

“Caught among the wild cactus-plants.—*E. B.*”

The type-locality of *cordovensis* is Yacanto, near Villa Dolores, Cordova, some 250 kilometres south-east of Chumbicha.

3. *Graomys* sp.

♂. 226, 232, 233, 236, 237, 245, 254, 260, 262, 263, 274, 275, 278, 281, 285, 288, 291, 293, 294, 314; ♀. 223, 244, 250, 261, 264, 279, 282, 284, 295, 315.

This fine series will be of much service when time and material are available for a thorough study of this difficult genus. Among these specimens there are examples with the belly-hairs white to the roots, and others with slaty-based

ventral hairs, but how far this is in part a character of age remains to be seen.

The present form seems most nearly allied to *G. chacoensis* and *lockwoodi*, but for the moment I prefer not to venture a definite determination of it. Its teeth and bullæ are larger than in the geographically adjacent *G. centralis*.

4. *Phyllotis* sp.

♂. 224, 227, 234, 235, 239, 240, 246, 249, 258, 269, 271, 272, 283, 286, 287, 290; ♂. 238, 243, 255, 270, 276, 277.

Apparently not distinguishable from *Ph. wolffsohni*, Thos., but the members of the *darwini* group are all so closely allied that without a special study of them a definite determination is not easy to arrive at.

The presence of divergent supraorbital edges in the type of *Ph. wolffsohni*, as described in the original account, appears to be abnormal, or due to great age, as specimens since received are like *Ph. darwini* in this respect. Well-developed supraorbital ridges are characteristic of *Graomys*.

As in other places the *Phyllotis* and *Graomys* live side by side, and are by no means always easy to distinguish from one another at first sight. The latter, however, has a longer and more hairy tail, and its belly-hairs, whether grey at base or not, have always definitely white tips, while those of the *Phyllotis* are more or less drabby or brownish.

5. *Oryzomys flavescens*, Waterh.

♀. 241.

Rather larger than Uruguay examples.

6. *Akodon glaucinus*, sp. n.

♂. 222, 225, 242, 259, 266, 268, 280; ♀. 229, 230, 267.

Externally closely similar to the Tucuman *A. simulator*, but the general colour is paler and less "saturate," the buffy or clay-colour of the dorsal area is less intense and is absent or scarcely perceptible on the crown, while the shoulders and the area behind the ears are distinctly more bluish grey. The white patch on the chin is constantly present, as is also probably the case in *A. varius*, but, owing to the condition of the skins of the latter, it was not originally perceived.

Skull apparently similar in shape to that of *simulator*. Supraorbital edges, even of the oldest specimen, not very sharp. Set of incisors of the normal orthodont nature, not proodont as in *A. lactens*.

Dimensions of the type (measured in flesh):—

Head and body 98 mm.; tail 75; hind foot 22; ear 18.

Skull: greatest length 27.5; condylo-incisive length 26; zygomatic breadth 14.3; nasals 10; interorbital breadth 5; breadth of brain-case 12; palatilar length 12.2; palatal foramina 7; postforaminal palate 4; upper molar series 4.8.

A single very old male, no. 225, is decidedly larger, the head and body 115 and the skull 30.5 mm. in length.

Hab. as above.

Type. Adult male. B.M. no. 18. 11. 11. 57. Original number 222. Collected 24th June, 1918.

"Caught under rocks among roots of trees."—*E. B.*

While there is no doubt that *A. varius*, *A. simulator*, and the present form are so closely allied that they may hereafter be shown to represent subspecies of one widely-spread species, I provisionally give a binomial name to this animal until such time as fuller material shows the true relationship between the different members of the group.

7. *Akodon arenicola*, Waterh.

♀. 228.

8. *Ctenomys fochi*, sp. n.

♂. 247; ♀. 248, 256, 265.

Closely allied to *C. bergi*, Thos., of Cruz del Eje, Cordova, with which it agrees in size. General colour, however, more drabby, the tone near "buffy brown" of Ridgway, while that of *bergi* is more like "sayal brown." Hairs of under surface washed with paler drabby, the hairs everywhere slaty at base, while those of the interramia are in *bergi* buffy to their roots. Dark area on muzzle and crown nearly black, much darker than in *bergi*.

Skull like that of *C. bergi*, except that the bullæ are uniformly (four specimens as compared with three) rather more inflated, the line connecting the antero-internal angle with the meatal tube more distinctly convex forwards, as viewed from above.

Dimensions of the type:—

Head and body 162 mm.; tail 76; hind foot 30.

Skull: greatest diagonal length 39; condylo-incisive length 37; zygomatic breadth 23; nasals 11.2 × 5.2 (in another specimen 12.5 × 5.7); least breadth across brain-case 17; meatal breadth 24.5; bulla, greatest diagonal diameter 15.2, breadth at right angles to last (exclusive of meatal tube) 8.5; upper molar series (crowns) 8; alveoli 8.8.

Type. Young adult male. B.M. no. 18. 11. 11. 68. Original number 247. Collected 2nd July, 1918.

This species is clearly most closely allied to *C. bergi*, but is distinguished by the characters above described. From *C. tucumanus*, its next neighbour northwards, as also from *C. mendocinus* to the south, it is readily separated by its much smaller size and the darkened upper surface of the muzzle.

"Lives in very dry red earth."—*E. B.*

Named in honour of Gen. Foch, by whose genius victory in the recent great struggle has been so greatly accelerated.

9. *Marmosa elegans pallidior*, Thos.

: ♂. 253, 257, 273; ♀. 289.

The white middle area of the belly is quite as in the "Acochayas" of Bolivia and of Umahuaca, Jujuy, those of Tucuman and Leon, Jujuy (*M. e. cinderella*) having slaty-grey bases to the ventral hairs.

"Caught among the rocks."—*E. B.*

XI.—*Descriptions and Records of Bees.*—LXXXIII.

By T. D. A. COCKERELL, University of Colorado.

Proteraner rhois, Cockerell.

Male, Meadow Valley, Mexico (*Townsend*).
New to Mexico.

Sphecodes mexicanorum, sp. n.

♀.—Length about 8.5 mm.

Black, with the abdomen red, the first segment with a large black area occupying the base and extending more than halfway to apex in middle, the third and fourth segments with a black stain in middle, the fifth and apical segments black. Head and thorax with dull white hair; mandibles dark reddish apically, with a blunt inner tooth far from apex; labrum short, simple, transversely sulcate; antennæ entirely dark; clypeus strongly punctured; front finely and densely punctured; mesothorax and scutellum strongly punctured, but shining, the punctures quite widely separated on disk; area of metathorax shining, with about twelve strong longitudinal plicæ; posterior face of metathorax very coarsely